

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Section 101 Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-3, 5, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with these rejections, in order to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended Independent Claim 1 to include “by a computer system.”

For at least this reason, Independent Claim 1 is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as are Claims 2-3, 5, and 11 that depend therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Section 103 Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-3, 5-8, and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0023957 to Bau, III et al. (“*Bau*”) in view of “LDAP Schema for UDDI” by Bergeson (“*Bergeson*”). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants have amended Independent Claim 6 to incorporate the limitations previously included in cancelled Claim 9. Independent Claim 6, as amended, is allowable at least because the *Bau-Bergeson* combination proposed in the Office Action fails to disclose, expressly or inherently, “wherein the second key provided is monotonically increasing.” The Office Action relies on the passage at Page 6, Para. [0063] of *Bau* as disclosing these limitations. Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, the passage of *Bau* fails to disclose “wherein the second key provided is **monotonically increasing**” of Independent Claim 6. In particular, the passage fails to even mention “increasing,” let alone “monotonically increasing,” as is recited in Independent Claim 6.

For at least this reason, Independent Claim 6 is allowable, as are Claims 7-8, 10, and 12 that depend therefrom. For an analogous reason, Independent Claim 1 is allowable, as are Claims 2-3, 5, and 11 that depend therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Conclusion

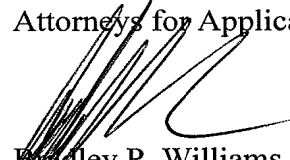
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all the pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Bradley P. Williams, the Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6447.

Although Applicants believe no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees and credit any overpayments to **Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.**

Respectfully submitted,

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